

RGU Intervention Flyer

Warning Signs of Gang Involvement

- Kid's clothes are primarily one or two colors.
- Has an unusual interest in gangster-influenced Music, Movies, Videos, etc.
- Has specific drawings or gang symbols marked on his clothing, in his room, or on school binders.
- Comes home injured with an odd or unbelievable explanation.
- Has money, clothes, or expensive items without an explanation.
- Carrying a weapon (i.e.; pocket knife, gun, kitchen knife).
- In trouble with Law Enforcement (arrested for shoplifting, running away, fighting, skipping school).
- Withdrawing from family and becoming more disobedient towards parents and elders.

What Can a Parent Do to Prevent Gang Involvement?

- It is OKAY to tell your child "NO!"
- It is OKAY to punish your child.
- It is OKAY that your child be upset with you.
- It is OKAY to keep your child from leaving the house after you told them not to.
- Monitor your child's computer usage (MySpace.com, internet sites) and what kind of stuff (pictures, videos, screensavers) they have on their cell phones.
- If you see your child wearing clothing you feel is inappropriate, or may be gang related, you can take it from them.
- Spend time and be involved in your child's day-to-day activities.
- Know who your child's friends and their families are. If you don't want your child to be friends with a certain group of kids, you can tell them not to hang out with that group.
- Encourage your child to participate in organized after school activities (Boys and Girls Club, Youth Group, Organized Sports).
- Take action in your neighborhood (talk with other parents, report graffiti for removal).

Programs and Places That Can Be Used for Referral Programs

- Washoe County Juvenile Services Community Outreach 828-6611
- Children's Cabinet 856-6200
- Boys & Girls Club of Northern Nevada 882-8820/331-3605
- Sierra Nevada Job Corps 972-5627
- Washoe County Juvenile Probation 325-7800
- McGee Center 856-4600
- Reno Police Department Regional Gang Unit 334-3852